



**Celebrating our
natural heritage**

friends newsletter • spring-summer 2013

Inside: Bonsai and Great Lakes Gardens Open • Campus Farm, Year 2 • Interns: the Secret Summer Ingredient

caring for nature, enriching life

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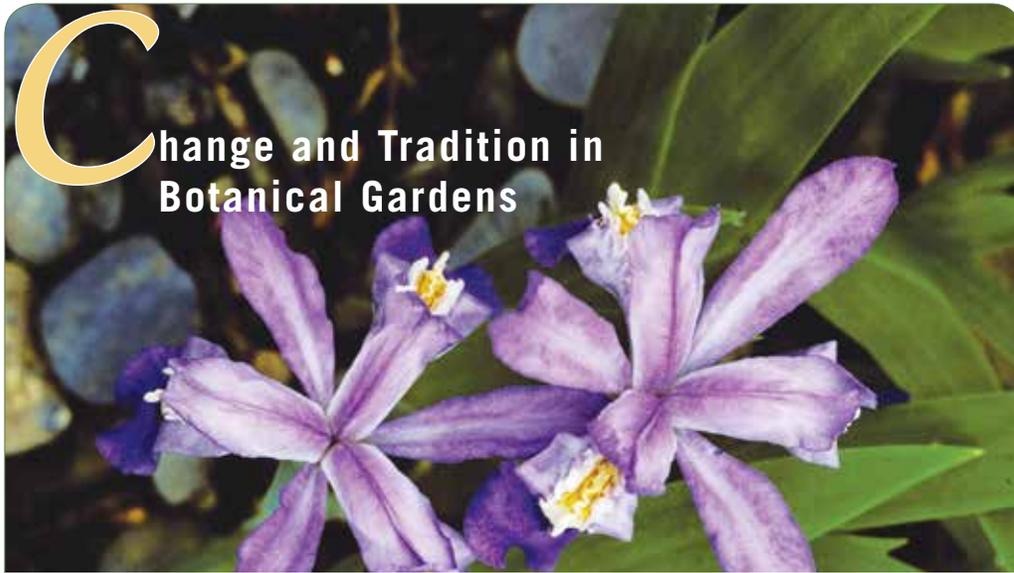
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C

Change and Tradition in Botanical Gardens

Borrowing from rich historical traditions even as it creates new ways to experience the beauty and value of plants and gardens, Matthaei-Nichols contributes to the University of Michigan's and the national conversation about what defines a botanical gardens or arboretum

What comes to mind when you think of botanical gardens and arboreta? Do you think of restful parks for relaxing among groups of trees, shrubs, and flowers? Or do you imagine showy gardens and art displays? What about orderly collections of plants for scientific study? Botanical gardens and arboreta have historically been all of these types of places and today serve many purposes in our society.

With their close association to scientific study, botanic gardens, arboreta, and herbaria were essential for leading universities. As with many other universities, the first botanical garden on the U-M campus was a medicinal garden created by Dr. Julius O. Schlotterbeck from the School of Pharmacy and Professor Volney M. Spalding in 1897 behind the University library. Since then, the scope of the University's botanical gardens and arboretum has grown to include over 800 acres with public gardens and collections on our Matthaei and Nichols properties and a mosaic of natural lands that also include Horner/McLaughlin Woods and Mud Lake Bog. In keeping with similar trends

at other universities, our mission has expanded to include emerging needs even as we embrace historic values. Maintaining beautiful gardens and natural spaces is still a key part of what we do, but many of our gardens today serve more than one purpose as we knit together academic and public uses. For example, the renowned Peony Garden at Nichols Arboretum is now regarded as the leading reference collection of heritage herbaceous peonies as part of the North American Plant Collections Consortium. And in April we will be featuring works of art created by students in undergraduate classes in the Penny Stamps School of Art & Design.

Our work now includes major efforts in plant conservation and habitat restoration. The new Great Lakes Gardens opening this April are a new twist on that theme. Celebrating the rich beauty and biodiversity found in the Great Lakes region, the garden will feature many of the rare and iconic native plants of the region, providing an accessible way for people to enjoy Michigan's distinctive beauty. Today there are fewer places to see native orchids such as

lady's-slippers up close or even to see our state wildflower, the increasingly rare dwarf lake iris. The Great Lakes Gardens will feature not only the English and Latin names of these plants but also their Ojibwe names, linking to the cultural traditions of our native flora. We hope to inspire visitors to care about our natural heritage and help support efforts by the land conservancies, public agencies, and others working to save these species in the wild. Our Great Lakes Gardens will honor the work of former Matthaei Director Herb Wagner with a fern collection that carries his name. The Gardens also include the Jean Avis Wilson Native Orchid Garden.

Our Bonsai and Penjing Garden, to be dedicated May 19, celebrates the rich artistic and horticultural traditions of Japan and China in creating miniaturized versions of trees and landscapes. This long-overdue garden will provide a home for displaying our beautiful collection.

Finally, this year we will open a new medicinal garden that brings us full circle to the earliest botanical garden on campus. The garden, developed in collaboration with faculty members from the Medical School and College of Pharmacy, will include plants from which modern medicines are derived as well as those known for promoting general wellness.

Whether your interests are in plant conservation, horticulture, bonsai and penjing, or plants' connections to the medicines that we take, we hope you'll come explore these beautiful new additions to Matthaei Botanical Gardens! 🌿

Bob Grese

Bob Grese, Director

M Matthaei Botanical Gardens & Nichols Arboretum

Botanical Gardens - from Medicine to Food to Native Plants

The earliest botanical gardens were created for scientific study, particularly for plants used as medicines. For instance, Aristotle established a botanic garden in Athens in 350 B.C., and Pliny had a garden of medicinal plants in Rome during the first century A.D.

The earliest arboreta also had medicinal or utilitarian purposes such as the groves of olive, frankincense, ebony, and other valued trees planted in early Egyptian gardens or the physic garden in Tokyo with its medicinal trees and shrubs. The Chelsea Physic Garden, established by the Society of Apothecaries in 1673, was among the most influential of the early modern gardens for its role in advancing the science of botany as well as in advocating plants for medicinal or commercial food crops.

Here in the United States, one of the earliest botanic gardens and arboreta is considered to be John Bartram's garden in Philadelphia, established in 1728. Bartram was extremely influential in bringing many North American plants into cultivation and distributing them to gardeners in Europe.



Above left: Michigan's state wildflower, the dwarf lake iris (*Iris lacustris*) will be one of the featured plants in the Great Lakes Garden. **Above:** Many modern medicines are derived from plants. The bark of the white willow (*Salix alba*), for example, is an herbal version of aspirin.



PICTURED, TOP TO BOTTOM:

Students working on seedlings for the Campus Farm in Greenhouse 5 at Matthaei last winter. From left: Jerry Tyrrell, Emily Gleichert, Madeline Dunn, and Vineet Raichur.

The coastal dunes of the Great Lakes—like the famous Sleeping Bear Dune in Northern Michigan pictured above—support many rare plants. Recreating this and other unique habitats of the region, the Great Lakes Gardens at Matthaei will feature some of the area's one-of-a-kind flora, including many that visitors may never have the opportunity to see in the wild.

Nearly complete in this picture from last winter, the Bonsai and Penjing Garden will be finished with hand-crafted display stands and a pavilion with studio space. The garden opens May 19.

On the cover: A stand of Great Lakes native showy lady's-slipper orchids (*Cypripedium reginae*).



New Grants Support Campus Farm, Matthaei Transportation Options

Two subjects much on our minds these days are the Campus Farm and the need for solid transportation options from campus to Matthaei Botanical Gardens. The first is already well underway, with a successful debut 2012 season and planting already underway this spring in greenhouse 5. Second-year farm plans are flourishing even more thanks to a "Quick Wins" grant from Transforming Learning for a Third Century (TLTC). Quick Wins grants are a part of the president and provost's office Third Century Initiative to develop innovative approaches to teaching and scholarship at U-M Ann Arbor. The \$25,000 grant makes possible summer farm interns, including a program coordinator, and materials for the farm.

Students and faculty who've visited Matthaei Botanical Gardens know how important we are to the university. But with plenty of will and little way, they discover few transportation options for getting out to the Gardens other than personal car or bike. A second Quick Wins grant for \$19,500 provides on-demand transportation for classes and student groups for the next 18 months. For more information or to arrange transportation to the Botanical Gardens, visit lsa.umich.edu/mbg/freeride/.

Great Lakes Gardens Opening

Join us Sunday, April 14, 2 pm as we celebrate the opening of the new Great Lakes Gardens, a series of spaces that recreate our region's one-of-a-kind habitats. The Gardens will showcase the Great Lakes' unique flora, including orchids in the Jean Avis Wilson Native Orchid Garden, wildflowers, prairie plants, and the Herb Wagner Native Fern Collection planted throughout in honor of Dr. Warren ('Herb') Wagner, a groundbreaking botanist and U-M Professor of Botany and Director of Matthaei Botanical Gardens from 1966–1971. This spring and summer, enjoy the extraordinary habitats that make up many areas of the Great Lakes, such as dune, limestone plain, oak openings, and prairie. April 14 festivities include guided tours and refreshments. Rain or shine.

A Big House for Bonsai

Our bonsai display branches out from snug conservatory setting to expansive new headquarters with the opening of the Bonsai and Penjing Garden May 19 at 2 pm. Finished with hand-crafted display stands and a handsome pavilion with studio space, the Bonsai Garden will allow us to display much more of our ever-growing collection. It will also demonstrate the international scope of bonsai today, with the collection representing traditional Japanese and Chinese styles along with American and European influences, including native material. Join us this May for tours, music, refreshments, and more, and don't miss this beautiful addition to our garden spaces!

New Member Orientation

Are you a new *Friends* member? Would you like to know more about everything that Matthaei-Nichols has to offer? Join Membership Manager Andy Sell for a presentation and walking tour of the display gardens, including our new Great Lakes Gardens and the Bonsai and Penjing Garden. Sun., June 30, 1–2 pm, Matthaei Botanical Gardens. Preregistration required. Contact Andy: **734.615.9475**; sella@umich.edu.

Campus Farm, Season 2

A big hit in its 2012 inaugural year, the Campus Farm continues to grow, with use of greenhouse space during the winter months. Student Allyson Green anticipates the farm's produce being used in the U-M foodservice one day, and she says that the dining halls have expressed an interest in herbs grown in the garden. The farm plot will be greatly expanded for 2013—it will be over a quarter acre. This winter semester, students from Professor Stan Jones's landscape architecture design studio created plans for how the farm space could be developed. The program has received two seed grants, one from the University's Planet Blue Sustainability Initiative Fund and another from the Transforming Learning for a Third Century (see story this page). This spring, students are planning a "Spring Fest" for Friday, May 10 to celebrate the start of the Campus Farm's second growing season. For details, visit the U-M Sustainable Food Program website: umsfp.com.

Save the Dates

For a full list of our spring-summer events and programming, see the following calendar pages.

May 11–12, 10 am–4:30 pm, Matthaei

Mother's Day Weekend Fundraiser & Sale
Hanging baskets and containers.

May 18–19, 10 am–4:30 pm, Matthaei

Kitchen Favorites Fundraiser & Sale
Herb containers and hard-to-find heirloom vegetables grown and sold by Cultivating Community.

June 1 & 2, 10 am–4:30 pm, Nichols Arboretum

Peonies Galore Fundraiser & Sale and Peony Festival
Heirloom peonies for sale in the Arb, plus music, tours, and more, all set amid the largest collection of heirloom peonies in North America.

Thurs.–Sun., June 6–23, Nichols Arboretum

Shakespeare in the Arb
Much Ado about Nothing
Early, day-of-performance ticket sales and discounts for members.

Youth & Kids' Classes and Programs—Spring-Summer 2013

Little Green Thumbs

Spring 2013 kids' gardening classes at Matthaei. All programs 10 am-noon. Fees cover materials and activities.



Sat., April 13

Super Seedlings

Discover the magic of seeds! Some seeds are only as big as a grain of sand, while others are gigantic. How does a tiny sunflower seed grow to 8 feet tall? Learn how the sun, water, and warm spring days encourage little seeds to become big seedlings and full-grown plants. Explore the types of seeds that will grow well in your home garden and plant seeds to take home.

\$8.00/child 13-YE-12

Sat., May 18

How Does Your Garden Grow?

Growing something you can harvest and eat is a delightful and tasty experience. Seedlings need the right soil, sun, water, and care to grow into delicious fruits, vegetables, and beautiful flowers. Learn how to make a beautiful vegetable garden anywhere! Decorate a small pot and transfer seedlings to take home.

\$8.00/child 13-YE-13



Sensational Nature Spring-Summer 2013

Discover, learn, and play all summer at Matthaei and in the Gaffield Children's Garden. All programs presented by Matthaei-Nichols unless noted otherwise. Programs marked with a \$ are offered by outside groups.

Wed., June 19, 10 am-noon

Winged Beauties

Beautiful butterflies, marvelous moths, brilliant beetles: they're all here at Matthaei. Join us for a hike to explore the habitat of winged beauties and learn how these beautiful creatures live, and the important roles they play in nature.

\$5.00/child 13-YE-14

Thurs., July 11, 5:30 pm, Nichols Arboretum

Backyard Habitats

Take a hike in the Arb to the riverfront landing and test water quality, search for aquatic and terrestrial organisms, and learn what makes their habitats healthy. Then create a take-home booklet to monitor and protect the plants and animals that call your neighborhood home. **\$5.00/child 13-YE-15.**

Wed., July 17, 10 am-noon

Wetland Explorers

Ever wonder what lives at the bottom of a stream or pond? Come with your waterproof shoes or boots to explore the amazing world of wetlands and streams. Dip nets will be provided to find animal and plant treasures. **\$5.00/child 13-YE-16**

§ Sat., Aug. 17, 1-3 pm

Mushroom Workshop for Kids & Teens

Presented by Forest Organics

A hands-on workshop to help kids learn the mushroom life-cycle. Participants will learn about different edible gourmet mushrooms and use them to create a one-of-a-kind collage of spore prints. \$25.00. Advance registration required: forestorganics.net.

Wed., Aug. 21, 10 am-noon

Sam Graham Trees Hike

What could be better than a hike in the woods? Trees and other native plants provide food, shelter, building materials and so much more. Explore this creek side trail and learn about the legacy Sam Graham left behind.

\$5.00/child 13-YE-17

Family Programs—Spring-Summer 2013

§ Sat., May 18, 10 am, 1 pm, 4 pm

Sun., May 19, 1 pm, 4 pm

Ann of Green Gables

Presented by Ann Arbor Civic Theatre Junior

AACTJ's original adaptation of Anne of Green Gables, staged on Willow Island at the Botanical Gardens. Bring a blanket or chair to follow the action. Tickets \$5; advance purchase recommended. Info and tickets: a2ct.org or **734.971.2228**.

Sun., July 21, 1-4 pm

Things with Wings

Celebrate our winged friends! This special event includes Monarch Watch with live butterflies and information on monarch migration; Washtenaw County Audubon Society with information about Safe Passage; Ann Arbor Backyard Beekeepers with an observation hive and information on backyard beekeeping. Fun for the whole family! Free.



Sun., Aug. 18, 10 am-2 pm

Dog Days of Summer at the Arb

Bring the family pooch to the Arb for a walk or picnic. The Humane Society of Huron Valley will be on hand with adoption information. Note: all dogs must be leashed! Free.

All programs below unless otherwise noted are free, open to the public, and take place at Matthaei Botanical Gardens. Money collected for fee-based classes covers materials. Fee-based programs are noted with a \$ and venues outside of Matthaei-Nichols are marked with a †.

MAY

Mon., May 6, 10–11:30 am
Balance in Bloom

Presented by Mich. Alzheimer's Disease Center
A free monthly wellness program for adults diagnosed with mild cognitive impairment who are interested in practicing mindful skills for inner and outer balance. **Also June 3, July 8, & August 5.** Please register with MADC: **734.936.8803.**

Wed., May 8, 6 pm

† **Native Plant Sale and Exchange**

Presented by Wild Ones Ann Arbor Chapter
Join Wild Ones for its annual plant event with Native Plant Nursery. **Note:** NPN is not a retail nursery; this is a special one-time sale. Visit them at the Ann Arbor Farmers Market May–October. May 8 sale location: 3052 Nordman Rd., Ann Arbor. Info: wildones.org/chapters/annarbor/.

Wed., May 8, 7 pm

Pest and Pathogens in Beekeeping

Presented by Ann Arbor Backyard Beekeepers
An in-depth look at bee pests and how integrated pest management (IPM) practices can help reduce pests' negative impact on a colony. Info: brescue@att.net.

Fri., May 10

Campus Farm Spring Fest

Join students from the Campus Farm and the U-M Sustainable Food Program to celebrate the start of the Campus Farm's second growing season. For details, visit the U-M Sustainable Food Program website: umsfp.com.

Sat. & Sun., May 11 & 12, 10 am–2 pm, Matthaei
Mother's Day Weekend Sale & Fundraiser

A large selection of hanging baskets and containers grown at Matthaei. Plus, Mother's Day and nature-themed items in the Garden Store at Matthaei. All proceeds benefit Matthaei-Nichols. Also, rhododendron sale at Matthaei sponsored by the American Rhododendron Society, Ann Arbor chapter.

Tues., May 14, 7:30 pm

How to Feed Your Roses

Presented by Huron Valley Rose Society
Plus Q&A and refreshments.



Wed., May 15, 6:30-8 pm

Catching Your Breath

Presented by Mich. Alzheimer's Disease Center
A free monthly wellness program for caregivers/partners of adults living with memory loss. Designed for learning and practicing stress resilience and creative skills essential for continued health and well-being. **Also June 10, July 10, & August 12.** Please register with MADC: **734.936.8803.**

Sat. & Sun., May 18 & 19, 10 am–4:30 pm, Matthaei
Kitchen Favorites Sale & Fundraiser

Great herbs and hard-to-find heirloom vegetables grown by Cultivating Community, the U-M student volunteer gardening group. Featuring herbs and herb container plantings. Also, on May 18 the Herb Study Group will be on hand with herb info, free herbal samples and recipes, and information on worm castings and gardening with worms.

Sun., May 19, 2-5 pm

Bonsai & Penjing Garden Opening

Join us for the opening of the new home of the Matthaei-Nichols bonsai and penjing collection. Afternoon includes tour of garden space, traditional Japanese music by Miyabi, Zentangle art workshops, and more.

Tues., May 21, 7:30 pm

Huron River Water Trails

Presented by Sierra Club Huron Valley Group
Hear Elizabeth Riggs of Huron River Watershed Council discuss efforts to create the 104-mile Huron River Water Trail, an inland paddling trail connecting people to the river's natural environment, history, and the communities it touches. Riggs also unveils a new waterproof map book for Huron River paddlers.

Wed., May 22, 7 pm

Introduction to the Bonsai & Penjing Garden

Presented by Ann Arbor Bonsai Society
The AABS has supported the Bonsai Garden plan from the start with suggestions, site plan support, committee work, and financial support. Come see what's been created. Info: programs@annarborbonsaisociety.org.



\$ Sat., May 25, 1-3 pm

Growing Reishi Mushrooms in the Garden / Urban Environments

Presented by Forest Organics
Learn to grow reishi mushrooms in portable containers that can be easily moved around the garden or grown in the smallest areas at home. Participants will inoculate their own reishi mushroom log container to take home. \$45.00. Advance registration required: forestorganics.net.

JUNE

Sat. & Sun., June 1 & 2, 10 am–4:30 pm, the Arb
Peonies Galore Sale & Peony Festival

We've partnered with local nursery Northfield Farms to bring you some of the same varieties of peonies that grow in the Arboretum Peony Garden. Popular sale—arrive early! On Sun., enjoy the blooms and outdoor music, and help us celebrate the 91st anniversary of the Peony Garden.

Sun., June 2, 10 am–2 pm

Hostas from Hybridizer to Retailer

Presented by Hosta Hybridizer Group
Join group members for a contest in which seed-raised hybrids are voted on. Attendees encouraged to bring divisions of their favorite hosta breeder plants to exchange. Bring a dish to pass or sack lunch.

\$ Thurs.–Sun., June 6–9; 13–16; 20–23, 6:30 pm
Shakespeare in the Arb 2013
Featuring *Much Ado about Nothing*

Presented by U-M Residential College & Matthaei-Nichols
Directed by Kate Mendeloff and played by University of Michigan students and local actors, the not-to-be-missed Shakespeare in the Arb draws thousands of devoted fans each June from Ann Arbor and beyond.

Mon., June 10, 7:30 pm

How to Get Started Exhibiting Roses

Presented by Huron Valley Rose Society
Plus Q&A and refreshments.

Wed., June 12, 7 pm

Catching a Swarm of Bees

Presented by Ann Arbor Backyard Beekeepers
Tonight's program focuses on catching swarms. An award will be presented to the new beekeeper who has caught the earliest swarm and can share their story through mandatory record keeping photos of the event. Info: brescue@att.net.

Sun., June 16, noon–4 pm

Rose Show

Presented by Huron Valley Rose Society
All invited to bring in named roses and information about their growing habits after 7 am. Followed by an afternoon display of the entries to help visitors plan for their own gardens.

Tues., June 18, 7:30 pm

Caribou Summer – Secrets of the Tundra

Presented by Sierra Club Huron Valley Group
Biologists Jim and Kathy Bricker share their 7-week canoe trip near Canada's Arctic Circle, where they experienced Arctic wildflowers and birds, grizzly bears, muskox, other wildlife, and the artifacts of native Inuit people. The Brickers will narrate the DVD in person.

Spring-Summer 2013 Matthaei-Nichols Events, Community/Adult Education Programs, and Classes

Fri., June 21, 7:30-9 pm

Summer Solstice Concert at Matthaei

A musical celebration of the year's longest day and shortest night with local musician Robert Spalding Newcomb playing the sitar. Outdoors weather permitting; bring a blanket. In the conservatory in case of rain.

§ Sat., June 22, 1-3 pm

Gourmet Mushrooms on Stumps

Presented by Forest Organics

Learn how to grow different varieties of edible mushrooms on stumps, and how to choose and inoculate a stump for mushroom production along with the proper microclimates necessary for different edible mushroom species. \$45.00. Advance registration required: forestorganics.net.



§ Sun., June 23, noon-4 pm

Herb Summit

Presented by Herb Study Group

Noted scientist and herbalist Bronwen Gates discusses how herbs support our well-being, and Sunshine Farms owner and past president of the Michigan Herb Associates Jean Riggs presents ideas and recipes using herbs (with handouts). \$20 fee supports the Herb Garden at Matthaei.

Wed., June 26, 7 pm

Bonsai: Art vs. Hobby

Presented by Ann Arbor Bonsai Society

Noted East Coast bonsai artist Jim Doyle discusses bonsai as art more than hobby. Info: programs@annarborbonsaisociety.org.

Thurs., June 27, 6 pm

Bonsai Workshop with Jim Doyle

Presented by Ann Arbor Bonsai Society

Jim will evaluate and suggest design options for bonsai brought to the workshop. Info: programs@annarborbonsaisociety.org.

Sun., June 30, 1-2 pm

New Member Orientation

New Matthaei-Nichols members are invited to a presentation and walking tour of the display gardens, including our new Great Lakes Gardens and the Bonsai and Penjing Garden. Preregistration required. Contact Andy: 734.615.9475; sella@umich.edu.

JULY



Mon., July 1, 7 pm

Herb Garden Walking Tour

Presented by Herb Study Group

Learn about the Alexandra Hicks Herb Knot Garden on this early summer walking tour.

Tues., July 9, 7 pm

Summer Hive Management

Presented by Ann Arbor Backyard Beekeepers

An in-depth look at summer hive manage-

ment, including how to detect varroa mites and hive beetles and how to reduce their negative impact. Plus, a look at the bee safe "sugar roll" process. Info: brescue@att.net.

Wed., July 10, 6:45 pm

Rain Garden Tour

Presented by Wild Ones Ann Arbor Chapter

A tour of Master Rain Gardener Roger Moon's garden shows how a rain garden works. 3533 Prestwick Ct, Ann Arbor. Info: wildones.org/chapters/annarbor/.

Tues., July 16, 7:30 pm

The North Country Trail, a Well-Kept Secret

Presented by Sierra Club Huron Valley Group

Hear Mike Dundas, President of the Chief Baw Beese Chapter of the North Country Trail in southern Michigan, outline the beauty, diversity, challenges, and opportunities associated with this relatively unknown trail's development.

Sat., July 20, 11 am

Great Lakes Judging (Orchids)

The *Neofinetia falcata* orchid, presented by new student R.J. D'Alessio.

§ Sat., July 20, 1-3 pm

Cultivating Oyster Mushrooms

Presented by Forest Organics

Learn how to grow oyster mushrooms on large-diameter logs. Participants will create their own mushroom totem pole to take home. \$45.00. Advance registration required: forestorganics.net.



Wed., July 24, 7 pm

Bonsai Design Options

Presented by Ann Arbor Bonsai Society

Hear a three-member panel offer advice on bonsai design. All welcome. Info: programs@annarborbonsaisociety.org.

Sun., July 28, 10 am-2 pm

Digital Measurement of Hosta Color

Presented by Hosta Hybridizer Group

Participants encouraged to bring their hosta hybrids to exchange, and donate \$5 to choose from 1-year-old "Seedlings of Promise," i.e., ones that show promise for breeding but have not yet been tested. Bring a dish to pass or sack lunch.

AUGUST

Sun., Aug. 11, 10 am

Hanker Prairie Hike

Presented by Wild Ones Ann Arbor Chapter

Explore Pinckney Recreation Area prairie and a BYO picnic lunch. Info and details: wildones.org/chapters/annarbor/.

Tues., Aug. 13, 7 pm

Honey, Combs, and Extracting Honey

Presented by Ann Arbor Backyard Beekeepers

A discussion of the history and unique properties of honey, a review of the different types of comb and honey extraction methods, and a look at the wisdom of taking honey now or waiting until fall. Info: brescue@att.net.

Sat., Aug. 17, 11 am

Great Lakes Judging (Orchids)

The *Restrepia* orchid, presented by new student Dave Miller.

Tues., August 20, 7:30 pm

Focus on Your Back Yard

Presented by Sierra Club Huron Valley Group

Naturalist Nellie Emery reveals ways to view flora and fauna in our backyards and surrounding areas as they adapt to ever-smaller habitats based on human encroachment.

Sat. & Sun., Aug. 24 & 25, 10 am-4:30 pm

Ann Arbor Bonsai Society 41st Annual Show

Presented by Ann Arbor Bonsai Society

The annual display of the "Best of the Ann Arbor Bonsai Society." \$3 admission at the door. Info: programs@annarborbonsaisociety.org.

§ Mon. & Tues., Aug. 26-27, 9 am-5 pm

Shrub Identification Class with Michigan Wetlands Association

Presented by Michigan Wetlands Association

An intensive 2-day field class with some lab-work focusing on identification of important wetland shrubs. A variety of local wetlands will be visited. Instructor: U-M Herbarium Curator of Vascular Plants Tony Reznicek. \$200 (MWA members), \$250 (non-members). Info and to register: Todd Losee (LOSEET@michigan.gov).

Wed., August 28, 7 pm

Bonsai in America with Jack Douthitt

Presented by Ann Arbor Bonsai Society

Hear this respected national bonsai artist share his 40-year perspective on the history and development of bonsai in America and on its future as well. Info: programs@annarborbonsaisociety.org.

Thurs., Aug. 29, 6 pm

Bonsai Workshop with Jack Douthitt

Presented by Ann Arbor Bonsai Society

This respected national bonsai artist leads a discussion on the elements of bonsai design and offers advice for the future progress of your bonsai. Info: programs@annarborbonsaisociety.org.

NOTE:
Be sure to call ahead
or check our website in
advance to confirm
programming:
734.647.7600
mbgna.umich.edu.

Matthaei-Nichols Garden Teams – Dig In!

Our garden team volunteers enjoy fresh air, exercise, a variety of beautiful gardens, hands-on learning and the company of fellow gardeners and staff horticulturists. Lend a hand weekly or a few times per month during the growing season April - October. Activities include planting, weeding, mulching, pruning, and other seasonal garden maintenance.

Contact the Volunteer Coordinator to learn more:
mbgna.volunteer@umich.edu or 734.647.8528.

Gaffield Children's Garden

Enjoy this playful, interactive landscape as you help tend 15 unique garden spaces—including veggie, herb, and butterfly gardens, fairy & troll knoll, and more. Must enjoy working in a kid-friendly atmosphere. **Fridays, 9 am–noon.**

Matthaei Garden Teams

Learn new gardening techniques while you help maintain a variety of unique display and exhibit gardens. Garden locations vary. **Tuesdays, Wednesdays, & Thursdays, 9 am–noon.**

Weekend Weeders

If you work weekdays, this is a great opportunity to dig in and help out in the display gardens at Matthaei. **Saturdays, 9 am–noon.**

Nichols Arboretum Garden Team

Enjoy the beautiful natural setting of the Arb as you help maintain the horticultural collections featured at the Washington Heights entrance including the famous Peony Garden, Gateway Garden, Laurel Ridge, and heirloom climbing roses. **Mondays & Fridays, 9 am–noon.**

Native Plant Team

Learn more about landscaping with plants that are native to our region as you tend a variety of gardens at Matthaei and Nichols. This group is active year-round and activities include general garden maintenance (April–September) and seed collection/propagation (October–March). **Schedule TBA.**



Pictured above right, top to bottom: Wednesday Garden Team volunteers *Linda Hintz, Judy Dluzen, Sayaka Terada, Cindy Baird, Grace Sheng, Ron Heames & Donne Wagner*; Gaffield Children's Garden volunteer *Jeanette Gaffield*; Native Plant Volunteer Team volunteers *Tim Schafer, Connie Crancer, Barbara Stapleton, Han Qoronfleh, Nolan Sandberg, Susan Beecher.*

Special Events

Looking for a more flexible, one-time-only volunteer option? Check out these special events and visit "Get Involved" on our website to register:

Matthaei Spring Plant Sales: May 11 & 12; May 18 & 19

Volunteers help make our annual plant sales hum! First up is our Mother's Day Weekend Sale that features homegrown hanging baskets & containers. The following weekend we're offering heirloom veggies & herbs at the Kitchen Favorites Sale, a fundraiser for U-M Cultivating Community. Choose from a variety of positions and shifts.

Peonies Galore Sale at Nichols Arboretum: Sat., June 1

One of our most popular sales, Peonies Galore features heirloom peonies from a local nursery and is held near the Washington Hts. entrance to the Arb, in full view of the beautiful Peony Garden. Help members and visitors choose peonies.

Shakespeare in the Arb: Thurs.-Sun., June 6-23

The 2013 season of Shakespeare in the Arb features *Much Ado About Nothing*, directed by the U-M Residential College's Kate Mendeloff. Ushers and box office assistance needed (pm shifts only). Orientation required.

Pictured, left: Mother's Day Sale volunteers *Suzanne Brousseau, Sandra Lawrence, Pete & Pat Wilcox*; the back of a volunteer's t-shirt displays the familiar Shakespeare in the Arb crowd control message.



Interns - Matthaei-Nichols Secret Summer Ingredient



As anyone with landscaping or a garden knows, new spaces bring increased responsibilities for keeping the plants healthy, weeded, and attractive. For us, new spaces also mean creating and maintaining signs, trails, boardwalks and benches, and public programs.

The new Great Lakes Gardens at Matthaei will take 25-25% of both a natural areas specialist's and a full summer intern's time. And the Bonsai and Penjing Garden and collection will demand 25% of a full-time horticulturist, plus much of a 40-hour-per-week summer intern's time.

For the past several years, Matthaei-Nichols has been using special funds to hire as many as thirteen of our nearly three dozen summer interns. The benefits to our gardens, natural areas, and programs were obvious but now, those funds are gone. And so are five interns unless we can find replacement revenue.

Adopt an Intern, Name a Garden

Donors can help the land management, education, and visitor operations teams absorb their steeply increasing workloads in several ways:

☛ "Adopt an intern." The average summer intern wage is \$8,000. You will meet your intern, someone like Calum Galt, who wrote, "My

summer spent as an intern here has been a wonderful experience. I've learned to work harder for longer, and learned a great deal about horticulture and plant care. This has been an incredibly rewarding, growth-inducing experience for me, and I'm very thankful that I was given this opportunity."

☛ Name a space with your gift, as Richard E. Wilson did with the Jean Avis Wilson Native Orchid Garden in the Great Lakes Garden. Spaces still available for naming there include the Woodland Wildflower Garden and the Coastal Garden. In the Bonsai and Penjing Garden, the Gallery and the Studio are waiting to be named. For more information visit Isa.umich.edu/mbg/give/major_gifts.asp, or contact Director of Development Gayle Steiner: gayles@umich.edu; 734.647.7847.

☛ Name a bench or a tree to connect your own name or someone important to you with Nichols Arboretum or Matthaei Botanical Gardens. Tribute costs range from \$5,000 for a bench to \$1,500 for a tree. For more information visit Isa.umich.edu/mbg/give/tributes.asp, or contact Tribute and Memorial Program Coordinator Andrew Sell: sella@umich.edu; 734.615.9475.

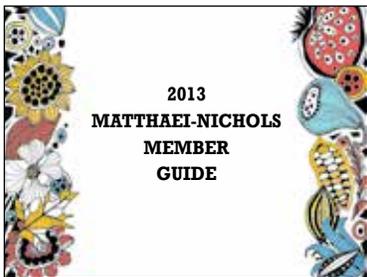
☛ Direct a portion of your bequest to Matthaei-Nichols, or create a charitable gift annuity or charitable remainder trust, which gives you income up front while leaving whatever is left to Matthaei-Nichols.

Your gifts will help our new spaces to thrive, our environmental initiatives to flourish, and our interns to transform themselves and their career direction.

Above left: Summer interns hard at work in the Gaffield Children's Garden. In addition to the vigorous outdoor work that many of our interns perform, students also contribute to the education, fundraising, and visitor services departments.

2013 Member Guide

A lot is happening here in 2013. To help you stay on top we've created the 2013 Member Event Guide. Look for this handy, at-a-glance fold-out calendar in your mailbox soon.



A Gardener's Dozen

April is membership drive month at Matthaei-Nichols. Renew your membership early or give an extra gift to support our gardens, trails, and programs and receive a FREE 13th month of membership benefits—regardless of your renewal date—along with a special bumper sticker to show your support. Urge your friends and family to join, give a gift membership, or renew by phone: 734.647.7600; web: mbgna.umich.edu; or at the Matthaei Visitor Center.



Members' Early Bird Special

With our annual plant fundraisers just around the corner, you're invited to join us before the sale opens to the public for a special members-only event. Take an additional 10% off purchases (20% off total). Breakfast refreshments served to start the morning off right.

Mother's Day Plant Sale: Hanging Baskets & Containers

Saturday-Sunday May 11-12; 10 am – 4:30 pm

Early Bird Member Morning: Saturday May 11; 9 – 10 am

Kitchen Favorites Plant Sale & Fundraiser: Heirloom Herbs & Veggies

Saturday-Sunday May 18-19; 10 am – 4:30 pm

Early Bird Member Morning: Saturday, May 18; 9 – 10 am

